

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claim 39 has been amended to advance the allowance of this claim on appeal. No claims have been canceled without prejudice.

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

generating a list of one or more related documents ranked based upon relevance to a first representation of content associated with a first field of a reference extensible markup language document, the first representation including a set of terms and one or more weighted values associated with each term in the set of terms; and

generating a link to each of the one or more related documents, wherein the link points to a relevant field within each of the one or more related documents.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first field in the reference extensible markup language document is specified at the time a query is generated.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more related documents comprise a first related document having a second field, at the time the query is generated, a user specifies to search content associated with the second field.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the reference extensible markup language document is selected from a group of documents in a database.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

submitting the reference extensible markup language document to an engine for analysis.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the link is a hypertext link.

7. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the second field of the related document contains semantically similar content to the content associated with the first field of the reference extensible markup language document.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

executing a query on the reference extensible markup language document to generate the list and the link without a user having to request the query.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the list further includes references to relevant fields within each related document.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of terms includes singular terms and higher order terms.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of terms includes singular terms and noun phrases.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of terms includes higher order terms and proper names.

13. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

a memory to store a first representation of content associated with one or more specified fields of a reference extensible markup language document, the first representation including a set of terms and one or more weighted values for each term in the set of terms; and

an engine having a reference extensible markup language document input and a specified field input, the engine to generate a list of one or more related documents and a link to each of the one or more related documents, wherein the link points to a relevant field within each of the one or more related documents, the one or more related documents ranked based upon relevance to the first representation of content associated with the one or more specified fields of the reference extensible markup language document.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

a database of documents.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

a database containing a plurality of representations, each representation being associated with content in a particular field in an extensible markup language document.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the engine adjusts the one or more weighted values for each particular term in the set of terms by a comparison to a historical weighted value associated with each particular term in the set of terms.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

a converter to convert a non-extensible markup language document into an extensible markup language format.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the non-extensible markup language document is content associated with an e-mail, content associated with a web page, or content associated with a software application.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the engine has a module to compare the first representation to a plurality of representations in a database in order to identify documents that are most similar to the first representation.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the engine executes a query on the reference extensible markup language document to generate the list and the link without a user having to request the query.

21. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

receiving a reference extensible markup language document as a first input to an engine;

specifying a first field in the reference extensible markup language document as a second input to an engine;

generating a list of related documents ranked based upon their semantic similarity to content in the first field in the reference extensible markup language document; and

generating a link to each related document in the list, wherein the link points to a relevant field within each of the one or more related documents.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the reference extensible markup language document has a first extensible markup language schema, and a first related extensible markup language document has a second extensible markup language schema.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

identifying a first representation of content associated with the reference extensible markup language document, the first representation including a first set of terms and one or more weighted values associated with each term in the first set of terms; and

identifying a second representation of content associated with a second field in a first related extensible markup language document, the second representation including a second set of terms and a second weighted value associated with each term in the second set of terms.

24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving a reference extensible markup language document as a first input to an engine;

means for specifying a first field in the reference extensible markup language document as a second input to an engine;

means for generating a list of related documents ranked based upon their semantic similarity to content in the first field in the reference extensible markup language document; and

means for generating a link to each related document in the list, wherein the link points to a relevant field within each of the one or more related documents.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the reference extensible markup language document has a first extensible markup language schema, and a first related extensible markup language document has a second extensible markup language schema.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:

means for identifying a first representation of content associated with the reference extensible markup language document, the first representation including a first set of terms and one or more weighted values associated with each term in the first set of terms; and

means for identifying a second representation of content associated with a second field in a first related extensible markup language document, the second

representation including a second set of terms and a second weighted value associated with each term in the second set of terms.

27. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture being one or more machine-readable media that store instructions, which when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

generating a list of one or more related documents ranked based upon relevance to a first representation of content associated with a first field of a reference extensible markup language document, the first representation including of a set of terms and one or more weighted values associated with each term in the set of terms; and

generating a link to each of the one or more related documents, wherein the link points to a relevant field within each of the one or more related documents.

28. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 27, further comprising:

executing a query on the reference extensible markup language document to generate the list and the link without a user having to request the query.

29. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

executing a query on the content from an active desktop window without a user having to request the query;

generating a ranked list of documents related to the content based on the content in the active desktop window; and

generating links to the documents, wherein the links point to a relevant fields within the documents.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

analyzing text from the content in the active desktop window; and

generating a set of most relevant terms from the text.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the set of most relevant terms is determined based upon use of a probabilistic algorithm.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the probabilistic algorithm uses a Bayesian model.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the documents include at least one unstructured document.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the active desktop window is running an email application.

35. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

means for executing a query on content from an active desktop window without a user having to request the query;

means for generating a ranked list of documents related to the content based on the content in the active desktop window; and

means for generating links to the related documents, wherein the links point to a relevant fields within the related documents.

36. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 35, further comprising:

means for analyzing text from the content in the active desktop window; and

means for generating a set of most relevant terms from the text.

37. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the set of most relevant terms is determined based upon use of a Bayesian algorithm.

38. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the related documents include a structured document as well as an unstructured document.

39. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture being one or more computer-readable media that store instructions, which when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

generating a query on content from an active desktop window;

generating a ranked list of documents related to the content based on the content in the active desktop window; and

generating links to the related documents, wherein the links point to a relevant fields within the related documents.

40. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 39, further comprising:
analyzing text from the content in the active desktop window; and
generating a set of most relevant terms from the text.

41. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the query is executed on the set of most relevant terms from the text without a user having to request the query.

42. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the set of most relevant terms is determined based upon use of a Bayesian algorithm.

43. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the related documents include unstructured documents.